

SEVERE LOCAL STORMS FOR FEBRUARY 1947

[The table hereunder contains such data as have been received concerning severe local storms that occurred during the month. A revised list will appear in the United States Meteorological Yearbook]

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
South Dakota.....	Feb. 1947 5-8			1		High winds, blowing snow and dust.	Frequent high, gusty northwesterly wind, accompanied by subzero temperatures, blowing snow and dust, and poor visibility, caused cancellation or delayed traffic. Schools closed; communication and power lines damaged, especially in the southern quarter of the State. 1 death attributed to the severe weather.
Lincoln and York, Nebr.....	6	8-10 a. m.	1 50		\$2,500	Wind squalls.	Windows broken; minor damage to signs and fences.
Michigan.....	9-10					Snow and wind.	Blizzard conditions prevailed. Severe drifting isolated many communities; traffic hampered. Schools closed in many sections of the State several times during the month.
Mobile, Ala.....	20	3:04-3:11 a. m.			2,580	Thundersquall.	Damage to roofs, trees, power lines, and miscellaneous property. Plate-glass windows in the control tower of Bates Field blown out.

¹ Miles instead of yards.

LATE STORM REPORTS FOR JANUARY 1947

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
Arkansas, north-central portion.	Jan. 1947 29	5:20-5:30 p. m.		0	\$167,880	Tornado.....	This small tornado originated just north of Calico Rock where hail began at 5:20 p. m. The funnel cloud was observed near Wideman at 5:30 p. m. At 5:55 the tornado reached Salem, Ark. Persons in this area were fortunate since the severe thunderstorm preceding the tornado by a few minutes resulted in their being safely housed in the storm cellars that are more or less a part of every home in this section. There were no fatalities in Salem, although more than half of the residential section of the town was destroyed. Destruction within the path of the storm was extremely violent and complete. One of the curiosities of the storm was the digging of a furrow a foot deep and several hundred feet long just before it entered Salem. 32 houses, 1 church, 12 automobiles, and several trucks destroyed, \$142,400; 44 buildings and public utilities damaged, \$25,000; livestock killed, \$480; 12 persons injured.
Missouri.....	29			0		3 tornadoes.....	
First. West Plains, Mo., vicinity of.	29	6 p. m.					The barograph trace dropped very sharply at 6 p. m., indicating that a low-pressure area passed this station.
Second. Koshkonong, Mo., 1 1/4 miles east, moving northeasterly.	29	7:15 p. m.					This tornado traveled in a northeasterly direction until it passed out of sight.
Third. Thayer to Van Buren, Mo., vicinities of.	29						This tornado was reported by the Weather Bureau observer at Alton, Mo., who is towerman for the Forest Service. A day or so before the tornado struck he had counted 40 trees on an acre of land for the Forest Service. After the tornado passed only 3 trees were left standing. The path of the tornado through this acre was very distinct and in most cases about a mile wide. The trees had been felled with the tops toward the center of the path of the tornado, and in the center of the path they were a tangled mass. Amount of damage from these tornadoes not given.